from Rs. 50 to Rs. 195 per tonne of coal. The States other than West Bengal are collecting only royalty on coal whereas the West Bengal Government is collecting royalty at the rates prior to 1.8.1991 and the cesses as levied by them. Thus the Govt. of West Bengal is collecting more revenue per tonne of coal in comparison to other States. Therefore, there is no loss of revenue to the West Bengal Government.

The Government of West Bengal was not allowed enhanced royalty rates at the time of royalty revision dated 11.10.94 because they continue to levy and collect cesses on coal.

Electricity bills pending with Tannery and Footwear Corporation

2723. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of electricity charge bills presently pending with the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited;

(b) whether the arrears were further accumulated by decisions of Court of Law;

(c) whether electricity connections for production by the company was disconnected on account of non payment;

(d) whether the company further moved representations with State of Uttar Pradesh but all in vain and if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) whether Government would take initiative to get the electricity restored; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Electricity bills amounting to Rs. 33.95 lakhs received from Kanpur Electricity Supply Administration upto November, 1993 are pending with TAFCO. Further bills have not been received after the power supply was disconnected during November, 1993.

(b) The Tariff was enhanced by the Kanpur Electricity Supply Administration but the revision was stayed by the Allahabad High Court initially. The stay was however vacated during March, 1993. The revision of Tariff with retrospective effect has increased the arrears payable by TAFCO.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) After disconnection of the power supply, the Company had approached the State Government and the electricity authorities but the supply could not be got restored due to the Company's inability to clear the dues.

(e) and (f) Such operational problems which are caused by acute scarcity of resources inspite of Government's budgetary support are taken care of by the Company.

Sick Iron Ore and Manganese Mines in Orissa

2724. SHRI RAHASBIHARIBARIK: Will the Minsiter of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some iron ore and manganese mines have fallen sick in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons of their sickness;

(c) the date since when those mines have fallen sick;

(d) whether Government propose to revive any of those sick mines; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (c) As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, some mines of Iron ore and manganese ore lying closed or work in them has been temporarily discontinued. The reasons for